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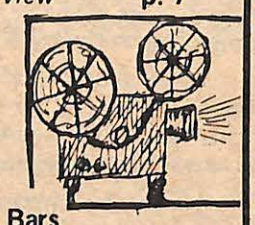

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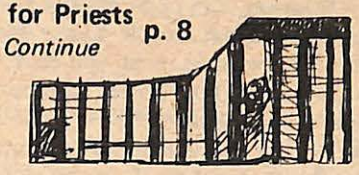

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"The other way is all right. After you tear down, you build back the living houses for people, but they didn't, they built them big monsters down there, and people couldn't live in them, I know I couldn't, they cost too damn much."
William H. B. formerly of 23 Spruce St. in the old Oak Street neighborhood.

MODERN TIMES

"What you do is news" 562-2510

VOL.II NO. 11 **New Haven** **20 ¢** October 1-15, 1971

Moratorium Oct. 13

Protests Escalate Against Viet War

by Leslie Craine
New Haven Peace Action Coalition

Local and national anti-war forces are preparing for a series of actions protesting American involvement in Indochina in the coming weeks. A nationwide moratorium on October 13, a national student strike on November 3, and rallies in 16 major cities on November 6 will be highlights of the fall offensive. At its September 21 meeting, the New Haven Peace Action Coalition announced plans to participate in these and other actions.

These plans include a rally October 2 at the Danbury prison in support of the Berrigans and other political prisoners and a national day of action by veterans and GI's against the war on Veterans' Day, October 25. The two-week period from October 25 to November 5 will feature a series of demonstrations by various constituencies leading up to the major rallies on November6.

The upcoming antiwar actions promise to have broader support and greater participation than ever before. Indicative of the type of support is the response of the organized labor movement, particularly in the wake of the wage freeze. An open letter being circulated by over 160 trade union leaders states in part, "To check inflation we must end the war in Vietnam, not freeze wages...Tens of thousands of trade unionists marched on April 24. Millions should be in the streets on November 6."

Stop "Business as Usual"

On the local-level , the New Haven Peace Action Coalition is encouraging plans to stop"business as usual" during the October 13 moratorium. It urges such groups and constituencies as students, women, the black community, and veterans to take appropriate actions at their schools and places of work throughout the day.

The anti-war actions may take various forms such as teach-ins, rallies, meetings during extended lunch breaks, religious services, or possible demonstrations in specific neighborhoods by community groups. The day's activities will culminate in a rally on the Green from 4 to 6 pm.

Out of Indochina Now !

The main focus of the rally will be the central demand of the anti-war movement: all U.S. forces out of Southeast Asia now. Special attention, however, will be given by the speakers to relating the war to domestic issues such as the wage freeze, unemployment, Attica and political prisoners, and racial and sexual discrimination.

Despite President Nixon's continued insistence that he is bringing the war to an end, antiwar sentiment has deepened since the demonstration on April 24. The disclosure of the Pentagon papers coupled with Thieu's transparently-rigged election scheduled for October 3 have convinced more people than ever before that the official pretext for U.S. intervention -- to make Vietnam "safe for democracy" -- is false to the core.

The wage freeze is being seen by working people as an attempt to make them pay for the war-induced inflation while the corporations continue to reap profits.

see PROTESTS page 8

Gail Coleman

Welfare MOM Wins Primary

by Virginia Blaisdell and April Reiss
Modern Times Staff

"I'm going to try and change things...to make life a little better." That statement by Gail Coleman, winner of the Democratic primary in the fourth ward in New Haven, characterizes both her motives for running for Alderwoman, as well as her realistic appraisal of power and politics.

In an interview we had with her, it was clear that Gail Coleman, a welfare recipient, would bring to the Aldermanic Council a devotion and dedication that might well begin to institute real progress for New Haven.

"I might be off welfare if I become an Alderwoman. I've been told that City Hall would not want an actual representative of poor poeple, a vice president of Welfare MOM's, to be a member of the Government. I might be offered a job.

"That would be nice. But whether I am on welfare or not, I'll always *be* a welfare recipient. That's where my heart, interests and energies have been for many years, and that's where they'll stay until racism and poverty are eliminated.

Politics Control the Poor

"I decided to run for public office as a result of my experiences fighting for welfare reform. It became clear to me that the life of the welfare recipient, and of all poor people, is totally related to politics. Whether we eat or not; have decent food or not; where we live; if there are jobs for us and day care centers to put our children while we work; all of our life revolves around politics and 'the system' on the National, State and city levels."

"Therefore I figured that the best way to change the system is to get into it. The position of Alderwoman is a beginning. I'd like to see real representatives of the poor as legislators in Hartford, and in Washington."

When we asked Coleman how she appraised the role of an Alderwoman, she said she realized it was not in the hands of one Alderwoman to change the system. "But it's a start: it's on the bottom of the political ladder. You have to begin somewhere.

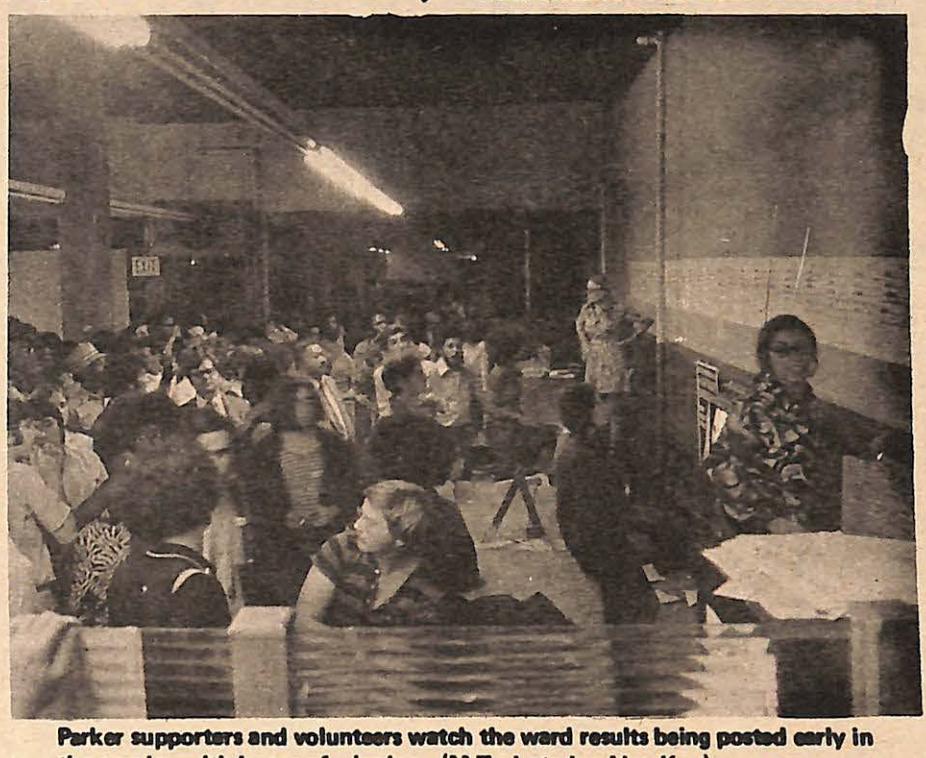
see COLEMAN page 8

Democratic Primary: Barbieri Out -Organizes Parker

by Henry Lowendorf
Modern Times Staff

Despite the fact that Black, Spanish-speaking, and student residents of the city were harrassed and denied access to the voting booths, an overwhelming number of voters went to the polls for the September 22 Democratic Primary.

However, the general results of the primary were not brought about by any disenfranchised voters. Rather Bart Guida won renomination because Arthur Barbieri's regular Democratic organization out-organized Hank Parker's Democratic Alliance. Both organizations succeeded in getting out the voters, 60 per cent of the registered Democrats. **Both received about 3600 votes more** than they garnered in the 1969 primary; hence, Parker lost by the same margin. However, if he plays the percentages, he should keep trying: in 1969 he had 32 per cent and this time 41 per cent of the vote.



Parker supporters and volunteers watch the ward results being posted early in the evening with hopes of winning. (M-T photo by Alan Kay).

Race Issue

Neighborhood by neighborhood, the simplest analysis indicates the main issue was race. Guida gained overwhelming support in predominantly white wards, the Annex on the east shore, eastern and northern Fair Haven (which could be stretched to include Guida's own ward, the 17th, upper State Street), City Point, and some of Westville. Parker won strongly in the black Dixwell-Newhallville areas, and the West Rock region containing the Brookside, Rockview housing developments.

Parker also did well in white wards where the constituency is predominantly liberal: Prospect-Whitney and parts of Westville.

Black Vote Light

In other neighborhoods the results were mixed. These include the mostly black Hill and Dwight-Edgewood. While Parker won in some of these areas, he did so with only slight pluralities. The vote here was also relatively light, which suggests that the Parker organization was weak, or the voters were not highly enthusiastic: In the wards Parker won, an average of 14 per cent fewer people voted than in the wards Guida won.

Of the third candidate, Vincent Sirabella, it is safe to say that his lack of voter support was consistently realized in every ward throughout the city.

Possible Control

However, two of Sirabella's aldermanic candidates, Frank Logue and Evelyn Brownstein, won, and they, along with the nine Parker aldermanic winners and possible liberal Republicans, may be able to control the Aldermanic Chamber in January. It is not clear what they might do with such control.

The liberal Republicans and the reform Democrats will in general not be facing each other, except in the 18th ward (north Orange-Whitney) where incumbent Alphonse Spadaro, Jr. meets candidate Logue.

Success for Some

Successful Parker candidates included Yale faculty wife Lisa Price (1st ward Yale-downtown), route 34 antagonist, incumbent Joseph Bartlett (2nd ward, Yale-Dwight), vice-president of New Haven Welfare MOMS, Gail Coleman (4th Hill-Congress) and other incumbents Leroy Gomes (19th, Elm Haven-Prospect), Fred Wilson (20th, Newhallville), William Jones (22nd, Dixwell), Mel Esdaile (23rd, Edgewood-Sherman), Aaron Aronow (26th, Southern Connecticut-McConaughy Terrace), and James Jones (27th, Brookside, Rockview).

Attempts Fail

Attempts to unseat Louis Aceto and Vinny Mauro, Barbieri's men from the Hill, failed. Lois Santos, who led the fight to close Columbus Avenue in the Church Street South Project, lost by 23 votes in a 7th ward weighted down with Crown, Madison, and University Towers. She trailed mayoral candidate Parker, who won the 7th ward, by 60 votes.

Other Parker aldermanic losses include Mrs. Jimmie Reynolds in western Fair Haven, and Margaret M. Doyle in Westville. Incumbent Gwendolyn Newton lost to Eldridge Davis (21st ward also in Newhallville), who was party endorsed but who refused to endorse Guida. It will be curious to see if he adds a twelfth vote to the reform Democrats.

Next Act

The upcoming November election pits liberal Republican, Yale-oriented, Paul Capra once again against regular Democrat, Barbieri-oriented, Bartholomew Guida. In 1969 in predominantly Democratic New Haven, Capra almost won. Then, no one knew if Guida would make a successful mayor. Whether they know now or not probably does not matter. What does matter is which party organization can get out the most voters.

Route 34 Foes Alive and Well

by Laura Joseph
Anti-Route 34 Coalition

In spite of recent statements by *Mayor Bart Guida and the New* Haven Register, the demise of Joe Bartlett's anti-Route 34 aldermanic resolution by no means constitutes the end of the struggle to stop the Highway. The foes of the Highway from the start recognized that the Resolution's chance for passage was poor in a Board controlled by Aldermen responsive only to Arthur Barbieri.

Rather, the purpose of the Resolution was to focus attention on the issue of Route 34 and, in effect, force the Aldermen to go on record either for or against. The large amount of public support for Bartlett's resolution had the effect of silencing at least Barbieri's men in the Hill and Dwight during Aldermanic debates on the Highway.

Coalition Gains

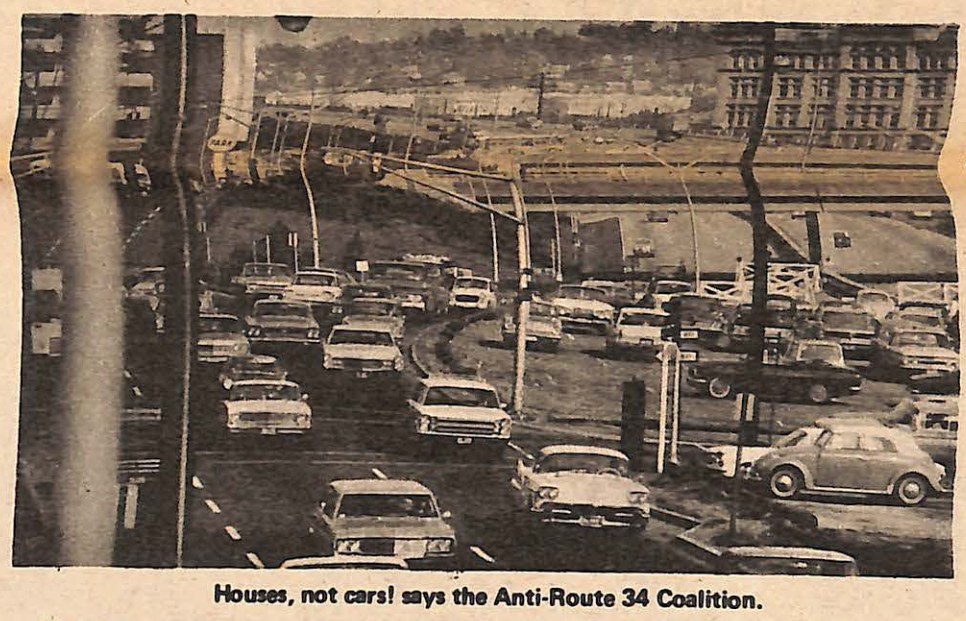
The thrust of activity in opposition to the Highway during the summer has been to inject the issue into the political campaigns. The results of the Aldermanic primary contests have been fairly encouraging from this point of view. A reform minded Republican (Diane Burrows) ousted conservative Dan Rowan in the Seventh ward through which the existing section of the Highway runs.

Seven incumbent reform Democrats (all of whom have voted against Route 34) and four reform newcomers including Gail Coleman in the Fourth ward who has been active in the Anti-Route 34 Coalition, won in the Democratic primary.

In the two Hill wards where reform Democrats lost to Barbieri, Paul Capra has aldermanic candidates on his ticket who are opposed to the Highway.

Thus, the chances of success for the foes of Route 34 at the Aldermanic level appear to be good.

Moreover, Capra, who has a good chance in November, has consistently taken an unequivocal position against the Highway. Route 34 foes recognize that a continuation of their efforts in the political arena prior to the November election is necessary to ensure a favorable political climate at the local level.



Houses, not cars! says the Anti-Route 34 Coalition.

Delay in Hartford

In Hartford, where the ultimate decision on the Highway must be made, it seems that Route 34 is close to the bottom of the State Dept. of Transportation (DOT) priority list. The earliest date at which the DOT contemplates a construction start is Spring of 1974. However, from what the DOT is saying, it is possible that construction start might actually be delayed even longer because of the State's tight fiscal situation.

And even if the Highway gets as far as the Boulevard, the DOT needs a new authorization from the Legislature to begin planning acquisition and design on the leg from the Boulevard to Maltby Lakes.

The Anti-Route 34 Coalition has increased its ability to apply pressure since March of this year through the fortuitous occurence of three public hearings and a local political campaign. Whether or not Route 34 is finally stopped will depend largely on the capacity of the Coalition to constantly refresh their ranks and maintain activity.

Community To Plan School Needs

The Board of Finance for the city of New Haven has granted the Board of Education the money to construct the 5/8 school in Newhallville at the end of Bassett Street. The architectual firm **Stull Associates, Inc.** of Boston has signed a formal contract with the city.

We are now waiting to view the preliminary designs. These will be presented to the community in the near future to get their reactions.

There are sub-committees working on different phases of the school. Some of the committees have completed their tasks and moved on to others. The committees are listed below:

Special Education
Multi-Media Center (Library)
Physical Education, Recreation
Pre-Teen
Child Care
Elderly Facilities
Curriculum Planning

Health Unit (Task completed-conventional unit found in most schools-possibility of health aide training)

School Size (Task completed-900 pupils)

We are seeking community participation on all committees. The actual design of the school and how it will serve the needs of Newhallville must be decided by the residents of the community.

If you are interested in serving on a committee, or just have some questions to ask please contact Persia Lassiter or Dorothy Stanford at 787-5853 or 787-5854.

LABOR NOTES

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS BACKS LEAK

Charles Leak is appealing his suspension by the New Haven Board of Education in the Connecticut Court of Appeals. Leak was an industrial arts teacher at Hillhouse High School and president of the New Haven Federation of Teachers. Leak has received both financial and legal assistance from the New Haven Federation of Teachers, the Connecticut Federation of Teachers, and the American Federation of Teachers.

UNEMPLOYMENT STILL GOING UP

The State Labor Department reported that unemployment in New Haven went up in August. There are now 15,300 people in the New Haven area without a job (this is 8.2% of the work force). The Labor Department also reported that the number of people without jobs has already increased by 5,200 over 1970.

AFL–CIO RESPONDS TO NIXON'S NO STRIKE POLICY

The Committee on Political Education (COPE) of the AFL-CIO has responded strongly to Nixon's attempt to out-law strikes during the period of the wage freeze. In their latest newsletter (August 30, 1971) they stated: "We flatly reject the Administration's contention that it has any such power (to outlaw strikes). In peacetime, this is an assertion of dictatorial powers completely foreign to the American concept of freedom. Even in wartime, no other President asserted such right. We will not abide by such a dictate and we will advise our members to resist any such attempt."

FIVE HUNDRED MILLION

The UAW *Washington Report* of August 30 states: "Five Hundred million at the very least will be taken from the pockets of workers and put into the pockets of management as a result of the Nixon wage freeze. That's a conservative estimate and doesn't include wages frozen by employers." According to a later estimate by the UAW (*Washington Report*, September 6), the total tax giveaways proposed by Nixon to big business will amount to $39 billion over the next ten years. In addition, another $9 billion in tax favors to the rich will go to stimulate foreign trade.

NEW CONNECTICUT LABOR LAWS

Some significant changes in Connecticut labor laws have been made which benefit public employees. The minimum wage law has finally been extended in Connecticut to include state and municipal employees. Previously in Connecticut, both city and state governments were permitted to pay their employees below the Federal minimum wage which is $1.60 per hour. Another law forbids employers from using electronic surveillance devices in employee's rest rooms, locker rooms, or lounges. There were several laws modifying the workman's compensation system in Connecticut. *See LABOR NOTES in the next issue for more details on new Connecticut Labor laws.*

Connecticut Unionists Vote to Dump Nixon

by Steve Ney
Modern Times Staff

Representatives from all unions in Connecticut met in New Haven September 15-17 for the annual State Labor Convention and unanimously voted to carry out a "Dump Nixon" campaign in 1972.

The assembled delegates heard Alexander Barkan, National Director of Committee on Political Education (COPE), deliver an impassioned speech on "Why Nixon Must Go in 1972." Subsequently a unanimous vote was taken, authorizing increased monthly union contributions to COPE, the political arm of the State Labor Council. COPE is laying the groundwork for the Dump Nixon campaign.

In regard to the 1972 campaign, John Driscoll, President of the State Labor Council, urged the labor movement to adopt a non-partisan approach to the problem of political endorsements.

"Behind the label of a Democrat, we are now apt to find just as conservative, or even reactionary, a stance toward labor, consumer and minority group issues as in the most Meskill oriented Republican."

Driscoll did not spare the Nixon administration, criticizing it for "three years of unemployment, a recession and price increases." He called for a coalition of "labor, consumer, liberal and minority groups" to fight the "lobbying concentration of business and financial groups."

He expressed hope that such a coalition would fight for:
1. Adequate state aid to the cities;
2. An equitable tax program, including a truly progressive income tax;
3. State aid for construction of housing and equal opportunity for housing in all towns;
4. No fault automobile insurance;
5. Unemployment compensation benefits for workers on strike;
6. A job development program to put the unemployed to work.

Driscoll also attacked business practices which have increased unemployment in Connecticut--run-away firms, conglomerate mergers, and the failure of industry to re-invest profits.

One example of a run-away firm cited by Driscoll was the Anaconda American Brass Company which transferred 200 jobs from the Ansonia plant to Buffalo, N.Y. Another 1000 jobs were lost in Connecticut when Litton Industries, a giant conglomerate, transferred work from the Hartford plant of the Royal Typewriter Company to Great Britain.

Young Union Members

A new development in the State Labor Council was the formation of the Young Unionists Action League, which caucused on September 16 and held a meeting in Wallingford, September 29. Several of the YUAL members were busy at the Convention circulating a bail petition for Angela Davis, which drew wide support.

At the Caucus of the YUAL Barkan pointed out that 25% of Connecticut's 20,000 unionists are under 30, and urged the acting director of YUAL, Lynn Zawacki, to continue to increase the membership of YUAL so that it could work effectively in supporting state and local COPE programs, and the registration of young voters for the *1972 election.*

The convention passed many resolutions during its 3 day session. An important procedural resolution provided that a two-third majority would be required before the State Labor Council could endorse a political candidate, rather than a simple majority. In this way, unionists felt an endorsement would truly reflect the widespread support of the Labor Council.

Other resolutions put the State Labor Council on record as :
1. in favor of public mass transit and the takeover of private mass transit companies by the state;
2. in favor of import regulations to protect American jobs;
3. in support of the Griffiths-Kennedy National Health Security Program;
4. a progressive income tax (passed after considerable debate);
5. the new Jetport Industrial City;
6. in favor of legislation to establish day care and foster-child care centers.

Yale Workers Issue Call for Union

Editor's note: If the Yale Non-Faculty Action Committee (YNFAC) wins the union recognition election at Yale in November, it will become one of the largest union locals in Connecticut. The following letter signed by 65 YNFAC members and sent to all Yale employees illustrates the progress of their campaign. (The signers of the letter have worked an average of six years at Yale.

Dear Fellow Employee:

On November 17th we will be voting to give YNFAC the legal right to engage in collective bargaining with Yale. As you no doubt already know, YNFAC is a union built over the last three years by clerical and technical employees at Yale to meet our needs - to give us a voice in determining our working conditions, to secure a decent wage, to gain us dignity on the job and to insure our job security.

This election on November 17th is not something that Yale has given to us. Over 1300 Yale employees had to petition the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) to get it.

Yale administrators make decisions about us every day - the limits of our raises, on layoffs, to fight our unemployment compensation, etc. But this election will be the first time that Yale employees will have the right to make such an important decision for themselves. An YNFAC victory will mean that we can decide together what our needs are, as employees, and then negotiate for them as equals with Yale at the bargaining table.

As a recognized union we can:
---gain decent salaries
---protect ourselves against layoffs
---get a fair grievance procedure
---institute an open promotion and transfer system
---expand our educational benefits
---fight to keep our health costs down
---secure our months vacation
---secure a better pension plan

These are not only reasons for voting for YNFAC, but also for joining YNFAC. Only through the strength of our membership can we win a good contract, and it will be members who decide on contract demands, negotiate for them and ratify the contract. Exercise the rights of membership -- join YNFAC now.

Never again shall we be the silent majority at Yale.

Sincerely,

name	dept.	years at Yale
Bill Berndtson,	EPH	12 years
Nancy Calvin,	Bursar	2 years
Lindy Schroeder,	Physics	9 years
Patricia Kilkenny,	Sterling Memorial Lib.	3 years
Nancy Tyler,	Microbiology	1 year
Ed Michewicz,	Art & Arch.	4½ years
Nonnie Cooperman,	Pol. Sci.	7 years
Carol Sadoski,	Internal Med.	2 years
Lillian Kaplan,	Admissions,HGS	5 years
Martha Yellig,	Psychiatry	3 years
James Bruno,	Audio-Visual	3 years
Elaine Ron,	Surgery	1 year

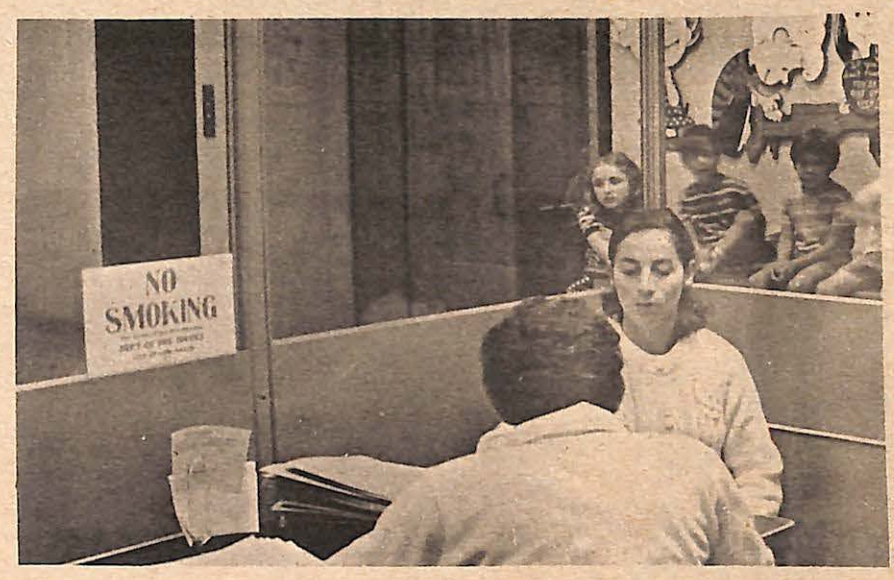
City Chickens Come Home to Roost

More of the New Haven master plan-- to serve business, banks and bosses better. (M-T photo by Virginia Blaisdell).

Free Medical Care in Fair Haven

by Katrina Clark
Medical Committee for Human Rights

For the past two months, residents of Fair Haven have received free medical care at a health clinic started and run by the Spanish Alliance on a completely volunteer basis.



Fair Haven Health Clinic (M-T photo by Alan Kay.)

Felicita Monert, the Co-ordinator, and Peter Blasini, the Assistant to the Co-ordinator, spoke of the exciting hopes to turn this pilot project into a permanent clinic someday. Presently, the clinic operates in the Columbus K-4 School on Grand Avenue on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6 to 9 pm. *Since its beginning, the clinic has had from 15 - 20 patients per evening, with* new people coming each time.

Just last week, the Alliance received a small grant of $5000 from the New Haven Foundation, which will enable a co-ordinator to get a small salary and which will be used to buy a few more necessary supplies.

Friendly Clinic

The clinic is completely staffed by community people who volunteer as organizers, receptionists and interpreters. Doctors and nurses volunteer and there is a spirit of friendliness at the clinic.

The building and the custodial services are donated by the Board of Education, and the clinic organizers are especially grateful to Mr. Palmeri, the principal of the school, for the help and assistance that have been given in organizing the set-up.

Monert and Dr. Tuck, a volunteer physician, both stressed the "grass-roots" approach of the clinic – the entire impetus and support of the clinic come from the community.

Perhaps the best indication of success *is the number of people who keep coming. Although there was substantial leaf*letting and information given out through the churches and other organizations in Fair Haven, news of the clinic has spread mainly by word of mouth, especially in the Spanish-speaking community.

Glaucoma Testing

Dr. Tirsa Quinones, a Spanish-speaking optometrist, has set up vision-screening for all the patients. Dr. Quinones stressed the importance of diagnostic testing, especially for school children to discover any learning disabilities. In the near future they will begin glaucoma testing in adults. She also expressed the hope that someday the clinic would be able to supply glasses to people who could not afford them.

The exciting things about this clinic are that it is what the people needed, struggled for, and are working hard to keep going. With more equipment and volunteers the clinic hopes to offer dental examinations to everyone.

It is also beginning health education classes, nutrition and well-baby clinics. It now offers routine medical treatment, vision screening, follow-up on patients and help with referals to other medical institutions.

More Counseling

All the people conversed with have plans, that when the medical part is running smoothly, more social and psychiatric counseling would be available. The clinic has received support from other Fair Haven organizations and will be co-ordinating more with the Fair Haven Neighborhood Corporation when the corporation has a health-social worker.

The greatest problem the staff ran into in the beginning was in lining up enough doctors on a regular schedule so as to provide continuity of care. There are now about six to eight doctors who come in.

The clinic is significant, because it is in Fair Haven – where the residents cannot get medical treatment without traveling a distance. It is open to all residents, but because of its close ties with the Spanish Alliance, the publicity and support for it come mainly from the Spanish-speaking community.

It was an exciting evening to see this clinic as a functioning, viable example of and challenge to the regular private doctor or the specialized hospital clinic. It truly is a communityclinic.

If you would like to contribute anything or have any questions, Monert can be reached at the Spanish Alliance, 777-3704.

CURE SIMPLE; ACTION NOT

by Virginia Walbot
Modern Times Staff

With a flash of that old campaign smile President Nixon promised a $334 million-per-year war against cancer a few weeks ago while quietly killing three recently passed bills designed to save lives now.

In 1970 Congress passed bills providing programs for the detection and *cure* of lead-based paint poisoning, vaccination programs against measles, diphtheria, and polio, and a substantial increase in community public health personnel. Unfortunately, the Nixon Administration did not budget our tax money to support these programs.

Lead Poisoning

Take the case of lead poisoning. Unlike cancer, which affects rich as well as other middle-aged and older citizens, lead poisoning is a disease of the urban slums. The victims are children (usually hungry children) from 1 to 6 years old who eat bits of paint and plaster peeling off the broken walls of their houses.

Lead accumulates slowly over a period of months in the soft tissues of the body resulting in high concentrations of lead in the blood. Symptoms of the disease range from listlessness to convulsions, sometimes leading to mental retardation, cerebral palsy, blindness, and even death. The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare estimates that lead poisoning affects 400,000 children annually and leads to 200 deaths; 16,000 children require treatment, 3200 suffer moderate to severe brain damage and 800 receive brain damage that is permanent and so severe that they require treatment for the rest of their lives.

Lead Poisoning Worse Than Polio

Lead poisoning kills and cripples more children today than the dread childhood disease polio did before the introduction of polio vaccine. And the greatest tragedy is that lead poisoning is preventable: eliminate the estimated 7 million units of dilapidated urban housing with lead-based paint.

The Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act asked for only $30 million for two years of much needed research to locate children with high lead, to develop new means of de-leading afflicted children, and to *remove all the lead paint* possible. Nixon authorized $2 million less for the whole USA than the city of New York spends treating victims of lead paint poisoning.

Nixon is disregarding the lives of thousands of children exposed to lead paint. Then he makes wild promises to cure a disease just to get votes. It all shows how far we are from "medicine for the people."

Hospital Harasses; Union Worker Wins

Eileen Toles, a worker at Yale-New Haven Hospital who has been active in the drive to unionize hospital employees, has won a major victory against hospital administration harassment.

On June 23, Toles, a Dietary Aide in the main kitchen, was suspended for five days. Backed by her fellow workers, she petitioned the State Labor Relations Board.

On September 13, the Hospital gave in. She won two and a half days back pay and a transfer back to the hospital bake shop for three to six months.

"I am very proud of my co-workers, who helped me through this struggle," Toles writes in the latest issue of the Workers Newsletter. "I also want to thank my co-workers who were witnesses for me at the hearing."

Hospital vs. Union

"The hospital had been trying to force me to quit due to my union activities. But after this victory, I feel more secure on my job, and feel that all employees should feel more secure to organize. This victory is very important, because *this is the first time any employee ever took on the hospital and won.*

"If it hadn't been for my union representative at the hearing, it would have been impossible for me to win. So you see, with this little strength we have, this is what we won. With more strength, we would win more.

"I feel that every worker with a problem on the job should always be able to call on a union representative. The only way we can have this right is to all join Local 1199 and organize."

Teachers Organize to Fight Freeze

New Haven Mayor Bart Guida tries to explain to Mary Johnson NHFT Vice President for Middle Schools and teacher at St. Boniface (Troup Annex) why he cannot assure teachers the pay increases their contract called forFri, Sept. 3, in front of New Haven City Hall

At a meeting of the New Haven Federation of Teachers on Tuesday, September 14 at Wilbur Cross High School a motion was passed unanimously through which a committee was established to cooperate with other unions in the New Haven area in opposing the wage freeze. The members of this committee are Mary Johnson, Alice Mick , Lulu White and Tim Craine.

(M-T photo by Gene Frankel)

Labor Courses

The Labor Education Center of the University of Connecticut has announced a series of five courses this fall. They are designed to assist labor organizations in Connecticut in providing education for their membership which is not provided in any other way.

The course on **Contract Administration Including Arbitration** is essential to all persons interested in representing, or negotiating for employees.

Teachers and municipal employees will have a special interest in a course called **Collective Bargaining in Public Employment.**

The Future of Collective Bargaining and Union Rights and Responsibilities will deal with Unionism, the government and the history of unions.

Unions and the Community will discuss the role of unions with today's social issues.

The cost for these classes is $12 per student for each eight week period. Classes in the New Haven area will begin on October 4. Further information is available by writing or calling:

The Labor Education Center
University of Connecticut - U-13
Storrs, Conn. 06268
Phone: 429-3311, ext. 336 or 796.

Church Fair

by Arthur Bailey
Superintendent of Church School
East Pearl Methodist Church

On October 9, a Saturday, the *East Pearl St. United Methodist Church Youth Council is going to* put on a street carnival between 11:00 am and dusk.

This is the first attempt at a street carnival by any church in Fair Haven and it has several purposes.

The planning of the affair has brought younger and older people together in a common cause and in many respects a better understanding between the age groups.

It is hoped that by our neighbors coming out and getting together for a day of fun perhaps we can get to know one another a little better.

Also any money raised by the carnival will go into furthering the work of the church in the Fair Haven community.

There will be games, food, ice cream, a white elephant table (miscellaneous junk) and candy sold. There will be prizes.

Student Describes Hamden High Riot

by David Mazer
Hamden High School Student

This article is a first-hand account of the recent "riot" at Hamden High School from the vantage point of a student.

Everybody knew there was going to be a riot. Even some teachers knew, and none of them did anything about it. I knew, too, nobody had to tell me—I could smell one.

It was Tuesday, the fourth day of the 1971-1972 school year. The first three periods went by quietly. Blacks stayed together, feeling a growing crescendo of tension from both sides.

At fourth period lunch, there was a big crowd of kids watching a fight between blacks and whites who are called "Frats". This was broken up by one or two teachers. That sort of cooled things down (but not the tension), and everybody sort of eased into the cafeteria.

Cafeteria Rumble

Then a bigger rumble started in the cafeteria by the left water cooler and the dirty dish window. The Frats grabbed chairs and jumped up on tables. The rest of the white boys and girls ran out the back doors screaming—terrified. The part that scared me was not the fighting, but the way those kids were screaming. The rumble continued until a mess of teachers stopped it.

The Frats and the brothers were arguing with each other and with the teachers. The boys and girls who ran outside sort of heistantly came back into the cafeteria to continue eating their lunches (if they were still on the tables).

As soon as half of those kids got inside, another rumble started in the middle of the cafeteria. This was bad! You could see chairs, plates, and trays flying all over the cafeteria along with screaming students stepping all over each other trying to get out the nearest doors. I was looking for my brother in all this mess, but then I decided to split when I had to duck a flying chair coming right at me.

Back Outisde

Soon, everybody was forced outside. The cops came, and they ordered everybody either back to their fourth period, or outside (to go home). Most students went outside. All the black students stayed in little groups outside, either talking among themselves or to detectives. Another small group started outside Howard Johnson's, but that stopped in about two minutes. After that, a detective cop walked around speaking in a pig authoritative tone saying "All right, everybody either go home or go to your fourth period class, or you will be arrested!!" Nobody paid him no mind, and kept walking around. He said it a few more times, but he gave up.

Police Pressure

The next day at school, you could smell a bacon aroma all over school. All black students were called to have a meeting with Mr. Griffin that morning. Mr. Fitch, the school's principal, dropped in. He was trying to negotiate. I recall one statement he said. "One thing you don't know about the white students — they love you." He said that from the bottom of his heart, but after seeing everybody laughing and rolling on the floor, it made him believe it really wasn't true.

The next day, even more cops came to school with their lead-filled billy clubs. During lunch time, there were five or six uniformed cops in the cafeteria, and about eleven or twelve plainclothes detectives standing at the entrance. This was Thursday, two days after the riot. A total of seventeen cops came to the school.

Now some people say that the riot started because some whites pinched a sister's ass, or because blacks pinched a white girl's ass, or because the new sophomores from Whalen Jr. High and Sleeping Giant Jr. High were just itching to start some trouble. It could've been any of those things.

Teachers Drop In to Learn

During the summer, a group of us -- teachers and parents from the New Haven area -- discussed what we felt was needed in order to bring worthwhile changes in the public schools as they opened this fall. Beyond reading books on educational innovations and attending one-shot conferences, we decided that teachers and parents could benefit from a continuous, self-determined, informal network of re-education and support. We felt we needed a Learning Center for workshops, curriculum planning and conversation about particular needs.

The Teacher Learning Center will open this fall at 75 Admiral Street in New Haven. Teachers and parents are invited to drop in at any time ti share in the beginning of the center -- contributing ideas for its development, sharing in the nitty-gritty of setting it up or just out of curiousity.

nouveaux-pauvres

by Beverly Gouaux
Social worker

To middle America, the image of a welfare recipient is black or Puerto Rican, lives deep within the ghetto, and is morally and socially "suspect." As a matter of fact there is another kind of welfare recipient who is increasingly common. This is the white, middle-class victim of desertion and/or disease.

There is the young middle class couple who buy the house on the fringe of the suburbs, go heavily in debt, and then the young husband, under pressure, takes off, leaving his young family destitute. Or the case where the head of the family is ridden with the disease of alcoholism; after many years of struggling with this, he is put out of the home, usually after he has squandered all of the family's financial holdings.

There are other forms of disease and abandonment, but they all have some basic common factors: 1. the family never expected it to happen to them; 2. they are used to paying bills and living in definitely middle-class situations; and 3. they cannot accept the degradation that society will try to impose upon them.

Some of these clients are people who have gone from charge accounts at Macy's and Ann Taylor's, $18,000 a year income, split levels, boats, and vacations on Maine islands. They have never seen the inside of a clinic, a slum, or a discount store, let alone a welfare office. They are frightened, depressed, and extremely bewildered by a society that once catered to them, that now wants them to be dumped in the nearest trash heap.

This type of client poses a real threat to the white, middle-class caseworker. The caseworker doesn't usually identify with the black or Puerto-Rican client. But in a trim suburban household, in furniture that could be *better* than the furniture in the little apartment back home, and facing a white face that looks an awful lot like your sister, the feelings are much different. Some workers work harder for this kind of client. Others react with a rage that a "cousin" let themselves get this low.

This kind of welfare client either seems to become a sort of genuine revolutionary — or becomes very bitter and self hating. The revolutionary is a kind of untapped resource for a better society. They suddenly understand the vacuousness of the view we are a prosperous and bountiful nation. They want to align themselves with people of other races for mutual benefit.

New Political Awareness

They have an incredible rage because they once hated the poor themselves as much of our society does, and they now sense the injustice. To be asked to live a radically different way, to dress poorly and eat less, and live in degradation because of illness and desertion is an incredible ordeal, and one that can produce a new kind of social and political awareness as well as a new type of personhood. These people need support as much as the black and the Puerto Rican.

Editorial-

A Lesson from Attica

"We want to be treated as human beings, we **will** be treated as human beings." The essence of the Attica Prison revolt is a growing prisoner movement for human rights and fair treatment that has made recent rebellions distinctly political. The prisoners have caught hold of the spirit of our times, joining the growing list of groups fighting for their full rights as people.

The so-called "responsible leaders" in New York and elsewhere are frightened by the prisoner movement, just as they are frightened by the militant labor or peace or black movements. And they act like frightened men. They oppose these movements by labeling the people in them as not really human. (Spiro Agnew: "to compare the loss of life by those who violate the society's law with a loss of life of those whose job it is to uphold it represents an assault on human sensibility and an insult to reason."). Then they send in the National Guard with a barrage of gunfire (against unarmed men!) and 40 die. In a similar manner the Vietnamese become "Charlies" and a half-million of them are killed. Or the Black Panthers become "outlaws" and Fred Hampton is murdered in his bed. Or student anti-war protesters become "bums" and four are shot at Kent State.

The strategy is always the same; declare a group "non-human" and repress them with violence. At Attica, however, Governor Rockefeller was surprised by the anger that met his brutal decision to send in the Guard; he was even more stunned by the attempt of two New York State Senators to press murder charges against him.

We at **Modern Times** condemn the governor's actions and support the effort to criminally indict him. We also urge all workers to realize that the prisoners' struggle is our struggle and the enemies are the same: Rockefeller, Nixon and the rich men who pull their strings. **We must all fight together against repression or else one day we may again hear striking workers called "rabble" and see the National Guard firing into picket lines.**

Hot War–Cold Workers

After four months of low-key work, the anti-war movement is planning a series of demonstrations to be highlighted locally by the October 13 Moratorium.

These fall actions follow closely the Nixon Administration clamping of a wage freeze. While claiming that the wage freeze is an adjustment to a "peacetime economy", Government officials show every intention of maintaining the U.S. Military position in Asia and forcing working people to pay for it through the freeze.

These two issues—the war and the economy—are linked together. Inflation, unemployment, and the freeze are the consequences for Americans of U.S. aggression in Asia.

As trade union opposition to the war from officials (as well as the rank and file) grows, the effectiveness of the antiwar movement is enhanced. Likewise, massive union protests against the wage-freeze, and large-scale anti-war protests will aid all working people.

A successful fall offensive is necessary for winning both battles.
END THE WAR! AND END THE FREEZE!

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MODERN TIMES is a non-profit volunteer labor publication of the American Independent Movembent

MODERN TIMES is a paper to tell the story of and by the people of New Haven. We don't get that kind of news in commerical papers run for profit. There is no place else where the work and play of people who aren't rich is considered important enough to write about. There is no place else in New Haven where the problems of working women and men are told by them instead of by their bosses. There is no place else where the hunger, bad housing and education, lack of health care and police harassment that people live with is told by them.
We live in the richest country in the world. But only a few people get to use most of this wealth for themselves. We must all work together to claim the wealth we all helped to create. Then there would be no need to strike for a few more crumbs, waste our resources and labor on rockets and bombs, or waste the lives of our young men in wars like Vietnam. We would produce what we need—not what is profitable.
The American Independent Movement (AIM) has been working since 1966 to get people together against the rich, powerful few who run New Haven and the whole country. We want everyone to have good housing, good education, child care centers, recreation areas, decent helath care and decent jobs.

STAFF: David Adams, George Andrews, Harry Andrews, Jan Baecker, Elizabeth Bennett, Marshall Bergen, Virginia Blaisdell, Matt Borenstein, Arlene Butler, Greg Butler, Katrina Clark, Ellen Comisso, Arlyce Currie, Joan Dimow, Joe Dimow, Lillian Dimow, Joelle Dominski, Suzy Duling, Steve Ellner, Art Fleischner, Linda Garson, Sam Goodwin, Harry Henderson, Liz Henderson, Bill Hersey, Shoshana Hersey, Larry Hogan, Eileen Hoffman, Peter Jackson, Alan Kay, Henry Lowendorf, Pat Lowendorf, Scott McIntosh, Alan McKnight, Art Mazer, Patti Miller, John Moldenhauer, Kathy Moldenhauer, John Moulder, Betty Murray, Stephanie Ney, Steve Ney, Laurie Nussdorfer, Barbara O,Connell, Craig O,Connell, Peter O'Connell, April Reiss, Naomi Resnick, Ruth Resnick, Florie Ricciuti, Greg Smith, June Taylor, Dan Vapnek, Virginia Walbot, Dick Wieland, Karen Wolff, Rick Wolff.

Write on

Vietnam Vet Answers Nixon

This letter was sent to **The New York Times** *which published it on September 5, 1971. We reprint it here with the author's permission.*

Today I received a certificate of appreciation, with a reproduction of President Nixon's signature beneath it, based on over 25 months of active service with the U.S. Army in South Vietnam and in the continental United States. In the light of some of the events of the last few weeks I found the message rather ironic.

"You have helped maintain the security of the nation during a critical time in its history," the certificate reads. Can Mr. Nixon still believe we as a nation are threatened by the National Liberation Front? Is it not true that our country is more in danger of tyranny and disintegration precisely because of a decision never fully approved by our people or their representatives to wage war against some Vietnamese?

I feel even more ambivalent in the face of Mr. Nixon's "trust that in the coming years you will maintain an active interest in the Armed Forces and the purpose for which you served." Did I spend almost a year in Vietnam to strengthen a dictator who, like a Russian Premier, runs unopposed for re-election? Or did I return from Vietnam earlier this year to support a withdrawal schedule that leaves almost 200,000 Americans in Southeast Asia three years after the election of a man who pledged to end the war?

P erhaps I and many other Americans served in the military because we thought that there was justice and reason in our system. But I see in the papers the picture of a friend of mine, a reasonable, kind, devoted priest and teacher, the Rev. Peter Fordi, S.J., handcuffed and in chains because he felt desperate enough about the war to interfere with draft board records.

I have seen no pictures of Lieut. William Calley, Capt. Ernest Medina, General Westmoreland or former President Johnson in chains, nor do I hope to. But a democracy should be ashamed to manacle any but the most vicious.

Perhaps the loss of the power of the people to control their servants (an honest word!) in government is being compensated for by focusing force against more easily controlled targets such as nonviolent war protesters.

My Commander in Chief closes with his best wishes for my "happiness and success in the future." I appreciate his concern for such reasonable needs, but the time has come for all of us, if only for the sake of our survival as free men, to turn our energies to the everyday business of making our Government do something as simple and ideal as serve the common good.

Donald J. Millus
North Haven, Conn.

What's Sauce for the Goose

To the Editors:

The *Bridgeport Post's* September 14 editorial "The Blood at Attica" ended with the words ". . . all of us must hold to the only sensible view which is that murder is murder, even when those who commit the act associate themselves with a cause."

Though I seldom agree with the *Post*, in this case I agree that murder is murder, and that, in the *Post's* own words, ". . . amnesty cannot and should not be granted to cold-blooded murderers."

Now then, since we all agree that murder is a terrible crime, and since all the more than 40 murders that took place at Attica were committed by gun-blazing State Troopers with Governor Rockefeller's order and President Nixon's approval, it is obvious that these two individuals will be arrested soon for murder without being granted any amnesty. And this is as it should be. After all, we certainly do not want a system of justice where only the poor are punished for such crimes.

Mike Holodnak
38 Morris Lane
Milford, Conn.

KIDS RATED X

"This Child is Rated X" will be shown Thursday October 14, 7:30 p.m. at Lee High School, Columbus Avenue and Church Street. The filmwill be followed by a panel of three former inmates of correctional institutions: Larry Sykes, Sylvester Spamm and Mike Laguna.

This 53-minute documentary film by WNBC-TV examines the inequities of juvenile justice and the abuse of children's rights in America. This

film focuses on two types of children: the child who has committed a child's crime - such as running away from brutal parents, or truancy; and the child who has committed a very serious crime. These two kinds of children often end up sharing the same dehumanizing facilities.

As Ben Gross points out in the **Daily News**,"The result of seven months of intensive study in prisons, reform schools and other detention centers, shocking conditions were revealed. There were interviews with officials but the most important segments of the program were contributed by the inmates themselves.

"Martin Carr, the writer and producer, who also functioned as the incisive reporter-interviewer of the documentary, highlighted the fact many children who are detained for comparatively mild offenses are forced to come into contact with those held for robbery and murder, and emerge as "hardened criminals."

"One famous scene in "Oliver Twist" in which the hungry lad asks for "more," was almost reproduced in the Indiana Boys School, the alma mater of Charles Manson, the Los Anglees wholesale murderer."

ON FILM

McCabe and Mrs. Miller

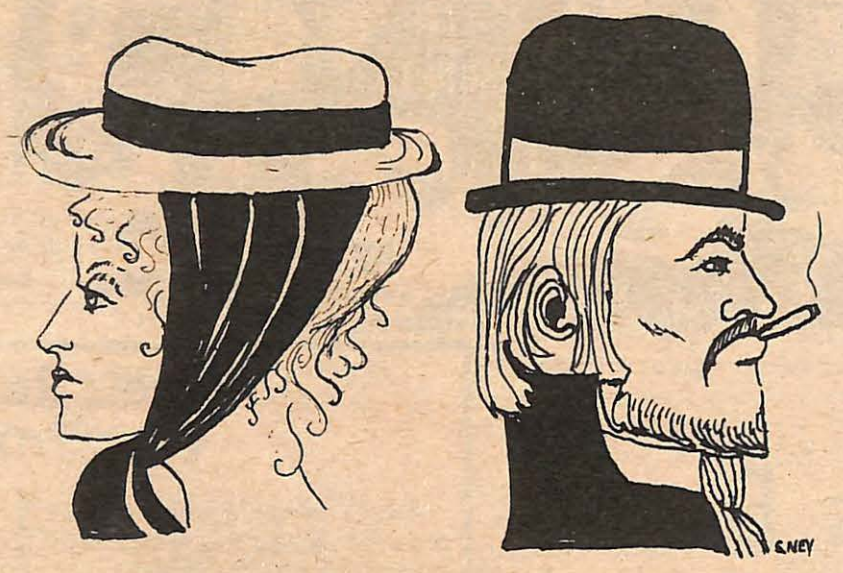
Pimps, Prostitutes & Plain Facts

by Virginia Blaisdell

McCabe and Mrs. Miller; with Julie Christie and Warren Beatty; directed by Robert Altman.

If you get a chance, go see McCabe and Mrs. Miller (but *don't* go to Cinema II in Milford where it 's playing now–they've raised their prices to $3.00). It's a beautiful movie!

I had heard it was a western about a travelling gambler and the tough woman he meets up with. That didn't sound too thrilling–especially with Warren Beatty as the gambler. An imitation Bonnie and Clyde, I thought. Not so. It is a whole reexamination of what *"winning the west" was all about and it's intensely (but not crudely) political.*



The setting is the Pacific Northwest, and you'd expect the photography to be all green and piney, but instead what you see is the cruelty of the land: the drizzle, mud, slush and snow drifts. Occasionally it is beautiful, and the director uses this beauty as an ironic contrast to the harshness of the humans living there.

The plot is fairly simple: McCabe, a travelling gambler and small-time hot shot, rides into the town of Presbyterian Church (!) and decides that what it needs is a whore-house. The town, by the way, is not your usual Mat Dillon western town. It is tents and shacks and rutted muddy trails and it's hard to see why anyone would stay there unless there was a lot of money to be made.

It turns out there is a lot of money to be made by nearly everyone, and to this end McCabe sets himself up in business with three prostitutes he bought in Seattle. He puts them up in tents (the only wooden building is the half-finished church) until his gambling casino is built.

Things are going smoothly and McCabe is prospering (in spite of a small stabbing incident by one of the prostitutes who couldn't seem to take the abuse), when Mrs. Miller (Julie Christie) comes to town looking for McCabe.

She is pure cockney toughness and sizes McCabe up immediately for the small-time type that he is ("If you want me to think you're such a high-type dude, you shouldn't wear that cheap Jockey Club cologne"). She has a business offer: she'll take care of the girls and the house (but it has to be high class–no more tents) and split the profits if he puts up the capital.

The story from this point to the end is an unromanticized examination of what "opportunity" really meant. In an untouched, underpopulated, virgin territory, it was the chance to abandon all restraints and grab as much for oneself as possible.

Everybody Is Hustling

Everyone is hustling and buying and selling–land, dry good, equipment, labor–even people.

Racism (against the Chinese) and sexism are blatant and everywhere. A mining company employee describes a new kind of dynamite–very efficient but dangerous. "But you still save money, since the fine for killing a chink is only $50." The prostitutes are sold to McCabe at a bargain–*3 for $200–since one is a half-breed, one is fat and the other inexperienced and terrified.*

The people of the town have no common purpose (except to make money off each other). Their only project together, the church, is meaningless since they all despise the preacher.

Violence is accepted passively in hope that one can stay out of its way. A man is beaten to death while a birthday party goes on nearby. No one seems to notice. Everyone attends the funeral. And Mrs. Miller recruits the widow for her house.

Not that everyone's motives are all that horrible. Mrs. Miller would like to get out of this dirty business as soon as she's saved up enough money to buy a "proper" boarding house. McCabe only wants to be a respectable businessman.

But the film makes the meaning of "respectable" quite clear. The most respectable and biggest company around, Harrison and Shaughnessy Mining, wants to buy McCabe's real estate holdings. McCabe, unfortunately, thinks that by holding out he can get them to raise their offer. The mining company doesn't fool around and sends its gunmen after him.

In the early morning hours, as McCabe and the gunmen chase and slaughter each other, the townspeople rally to fight a fire in the church they never bothered to finish building and Mrs. Miller lies dreamily smoking opium with the Chinese.

Open Line

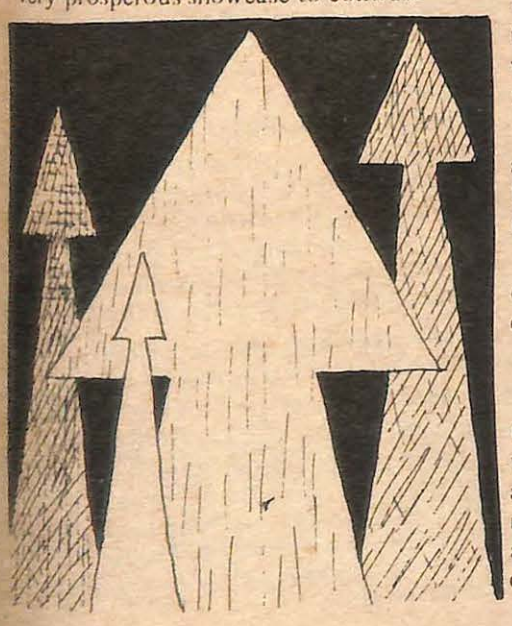
Income Exits!

by Mike *Holodnak*

Inflation is not caused by rising wages. All the tangible evidence shows that it is caused by the cold war, giant grants to private corporations, and the Vietnam war.

After World War II, to revive our dying social system, the dictators in Washington began the cold war to create juicy defense contracts and a false prosperity to divert the American people's minds away from Socialism. To accomplish this, billions of taxpayers' dollars were squandered on such criminal boondoggles as propping up military dictatorships all around the world, plus giving billions of dollars to help rebuild the more advanced but war devastated devastated countries such as Japan, England, France and Germany.

Germany, for example, was given billions in outright grants. Many millions were poured into W. Berlin to create a very prosperous showcase to contrast sharply with war-torn E. Berlin which had to climb out of the rubble at a slower pace. The result was that people gravitated to the more prosperous zone, which forced E. Berlin to build the now famous Berlin Wall. In reality it was the American taxpayers who paid heavily to bring this wall, which solved nothing, into existence.



It was this extravagant cold war spending that began spiralling inflation upward, and not workers' wages as Nixon would have us believe.

Workers Short Changed

For example. In the auto industry, between 1946 and 1969 productivity increased at a rate of 124% per man hours or a compound rate of 3.6% per year. Yet, take home pay per man hours increased by only 40% or a compound rate of 1.5% per year.

Or take the railroad industry. Today there are less than one-half of the railroad workers than there was prior to WW2, yet railroads are carrying more tonnage now than ever. With fewer men doing more work it is no wonder that the service is so poor and rail accidents are so rampant.

Or the Pacific dock workers. Ten years ago the average longshoreman handled a little less than 1½ tons of cargo per man hours. Today he handles over 2½ tons.

In short, in every part of the American economy, the workers are being short changed.

Greed--A Double Standard

In our society the criterion for success is greed. Yet those who work for a living who create all the wealth and who are always struggling to make ends meet, are ridiculed, by the communications media, as being greedy if they go on strike to demand a living wage.

But those with money can accumulate money in tremendous quantity, with little or no effort on their part. And the media showers these individuals with effusive praise. Take a rich man who has say $300,000,000. He can make nearly $28 every second of every day and night. Or about $1,680 per hour, 24 hours a day, or about $40,000 per day. And this he makes whether he lolls on his yacht, sleeps, suns himself on the Riviera, or floats in one of his swimming pools.

How come then that nobody ever complains, thinks or even implies that this millionaire is greedy, that his wages are exorbitant, or that his ilk are the source of inflation?

Which brings me to the next group of questions. How come Nixon is freezing workers' wages but not millionaires' profits? How come our taxes are so high? How come there are no funds for all the various domestic services that are so sorely needed? How come there is so very little for so very many in this the *richest country in the world*? How come?

THE KIND OF MEN WHO RULE US

1892-- Seven strikers killed by Pinkertons at Homestead Pa., as they battle against Carnegie Steel. John D. Rockefeller sends his personal congratulations in a letter to Henry C. Frick, manager of Carnegie Steel.

1914-- Twenty people, including two women and thirteen children, killed by the National Guard in Ludlow, Colorado, during a strike of coal miners against Rockefeller-dominated Colorado Fuel and Iron Co. John D. Rockefeller Jr. sends his "hearty congratulations on the winning of the strike. I sincerely approve of all your actions..." Old John D. is pleased too. His son writes, "My father has followed the events of the last few months in connection with the fuel company with unusual interest and satisfaction."

1971-- Forty people, including inmates and guards, killed at Attica Prison by assault ordered by Nelson Rockefeller, son of John Jr., and grandson of John Sr. President Nixon sends *his* congratulations.

Danbury Prison Bars Rally, Plans Go Right On

Free DAN and PHIL

by Steve Ney
Modern Times Staff

Organizers of the October 2 rally at Danbury Federal Prison have come up against the power of the state in seeking permission for their action. The mass march and demonstration, scheduled for a field outside the prison, is called to demand prison reforms and to support inmates including draft resisters and priests Philip and Daniel Berrigan.

John Norton, warden of the prison, announced he would not permit the rally. The groups sponsoring the demonstration have taken their case to court, requesting an injunction ordering the warden to reverse his decision.

Last August, when the Berrigans were denied parole, five inmates started a work strike in protest. All of the strikers are in prison for war resistance and failure to cooperate with the Selective Service System. They directed their stoppage against the prison's electronics plant, which specializes in electric cables for missles.

Since then the original five strikers have been joined by 20 others within the prison in a hunger strike which in Father Daniel Berrigan's words, "called attention to the duplicity and non-accountability of the Federal Parole Board" and which "dared to link crimes against domestic prisoners to crimes against Vietnamese prisoners."

Groups' Demands

The demands of the groups sponsoring the demonstration on October 2 are:

1. Major reforms of a parole system that has recently *boasted* a 12.6% decline in parole grants.
2. An early review of the parole application of Fr. Philip Berrigan and a parole grant for Fr. Daniel Berrigan, whose poor health has led Danbury doctors to predict continuing physical deterioration so long as he remains in prison.
3. An end to the U.S. funded tiger cages used for political prisoners in South Vietnam.
4. The end to U.S. funding and staffing of prisons and interrofation camps for political suspects in South Vietnam.
5. The release of all those who are sick, disabled, and are being held without trial, or whose sentences are now expired.

The groups sponsoring the October 2 rally are the Catholic Peace Fellowship, Clergy and Layman Concerned, Episcopal Peace Fellowship, Danbury Committee on Prisons, Emmaus House, Third World Women's Alliance, Harrisburg Defense Committee, Mayday, People's Coalition for Peace and Justice, Committee to Free Angela Davis and Other Political Prisoners.

Spiderman Smacks Back

by Myron Surasky

In Green Lantern comics numbers 85 and 86, comic's history was made. Mention of drugs in comics was forbidden by the comic's code until Stan Lee, editor and writer for Marvel comics, felt it *appropriate for any medium, even comics, to speak out on the harm done by drugs.*

As a result of this thinking Stan originated Spider Man, numbers 96 through 98. However, Stan Lee's comics were denied the seal of approval by the comic's code authority because of their mention of drugs.

Undaunted, he felt he had something that needed telling, so his material was published without the seal.

The main plot of his material dealt with hero vs. villain but the sub plot centered around Spiderman's roommate being strung out on pills. Because of Lee's innovation, and other influences, the code was revised so drugs could be used in comics if referred to in a negative way. Stan Lee's leadership and the resultant change in the comic book code led the way for the two aforementioned Green Lanterns.

It's About Junk

The plot for Green Lantern comics numbers 85 and 86 is not the old protagonist vs. antagonist that we're all too familiar with. It's about junk. And it's about the torment that society allows to run amuck in its heart.

These two issues change the format of comics radically. Working with ideas started by Stan Lee in 1961, Denny O'Neil (the writer of Green Lantern) introduces us to heroes who feel pain as they're mugged or shot by junkies, and who find out how uncaring people are as they are refused help by police, cabbies and nurses. Junkies O.D. and die before us.

There are no more wisecracks by those super do-gooders as they find out that pain and vengeance are feelings that can't be overlooked. A definite attitude is indicated as we find out that the major supplier of heroin is a young, mod president of a major pharmaceutical company and not some evil street man.

Kudos must also go to Mr. Neal Adams, artist incomparable, who shows us the agony of ayoung boy on his knees begging for a fix with tears running from his eyes.

The story doesn't end on page 25. It marches on throughout America. Heroin is still sold on the streets of New Haven. Police still take bribes to look the other way. Brothers and sisters are still in jail for smoking grass.

The whole story hasn't been told, yet the publication of these comics is a step towards feedom of the press in the history of comics. Stan Lee deserves recognition as the man who brought about the present renaissance in the world of comics.

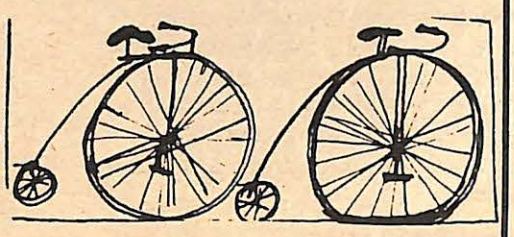
Legal Rights Help Dixwell Patients

Hung up in hospital "red tape?" Need somebody to translate medical jargon? Need someone at the hospital to complain to, or be a friend? Call Celestine Williams, Patient Advocate, 436-8480 at the hospital.

Williams, a licensed practical nurse, is sponsored and trained by the Dixwell Legal Rights Association. According to the Association, the program continues to be highly successful after more than three years of operation.

The office of the Patient Advocate is located next to the hospital cashier.

Wheels Revolve Around War/Tax Resistance



The Committee for Nonviolent Action is sponsoring a bicycle caravan to protest the war and publicize war tax resistance. The caravan began in Orono, Maine on Sept. 27, and will end in Andover, Mass. on November 24, which has been designated **"Life Giving Day–A Day of War Tax Resistance."**

"A bicycle caravan is a walk on wheels," according to CNVA. "It is full of intimate contact with people along the route, and at the same time emphasizes the links that bind community to community throughout the area it covers. In car travel, roads often become blank spaces, lost time, and symbols of separation.

"In a bicycle caravan, the roads from town to town become a part of the action. That means 15 or more people riding, wearing signs, stopping wherever there are people to rap with and hand leaflets, speaking at meetings in towns and cities along the way, taking part in vigils and demonstrations organized by local groups, bringing energy and excitement and leaving in their wake new and revitalized tax resistance activities."

For further information call: 203-376-9970 or write to Box 430, Voluntown, Conn., 06384.

PROTESTS continued from page 1

And most recently the massacre of the Attica prisoners has reminded us all that the repression of Vietnamese at Mylai has parallels here at home.

The potential for organizing a movement that can force an end to the war is greater than ever.

Meetings are held weekly at 53 Wall St and are open to all. Volunteers are needed to staff the office, distribute leaflets, raise money, and organize in as many schools, shops, and communities as possible. If you would like to help out or receive further information, call 777-1265, weekdays, 1 to 5 pm.

COLEMAN continued from page 1

"And the 'Parker Seven' did show their power by effectively using the veto. This year there might be 11 'Parker' people. With a unified, collective effort we can do a whole lot. We will begin to force City Hall to pay more attention to the people."

"We were all really depressed that Hank lost. But there will be a next time to do better. We are slowly but steadily eating away at the system."

We asked Gail Coleman when her political career started. She said it was started inadvertently, long before she decided to run for Alderwoman.

"In January I got a call from the Parker headquarters, asking me to help in the voter registration drive. I realized that voting was a tool that poor people could use to build their political power. I had registered to vote as soon as I turned 21 years old.

"I went to Aldermanic hearings, and saw the Alderman from the fourth ward veto bills that would have helped black and Puerto Rician people.

"So I worked very hard, speaking with people, explaining what it meant to become a voter, and generally getting involved in politics.

"The Parker team began looking for someone to run in the fourth ward. Two days before petitions were to be in Hank said 'well Gail, you'd better run'. 65 signitures later, I began my campaign!"

During the registration drive Gail Coleman registered 250 new voters in the fourth ward. She won the ward by 255 votes.

With the registration drive over, the job was to get the people out to vote. "We had a beautiful system worked out. There were about 16 Parker people working in the fourth ward.

"We each were in charge of an area. I covered all of Congress Avenue. Election day we went from door to door from 12 to 4 o'clock, and got all the people who were home down to the voting booths.

"We went over the same area from 4 to 6 o'clock, and again from 6 to 8. We had babysitters, car pools, and anything else we could think of to help people get out and vote. People voted who never never had voted in their life. It was really exciting."

We asked Coleman what her strategy for the November elections would be, and what the issues were. She said that it was not clear who her Republican opponent would be, if indeed there would be one at all. But regardless of how the next campaign develops, for her the issues were indisputable.

"We need to set up priorities to run this city with the interests of the people right out in front. We need active community representation and influence in our schools. We need more teachers' aids, and a restoration of after school functions.

"We need to enforce the building codes so the slumlords either fix up their property, or go to jail.

"We need jobs for the people on Congress Avenue, and jobs for all of the unemployed.

"We need daycare centers so no family gets turned away because there is no room for the children."

Choice of Panther Jury Challenged by Defense

by Mike McTighe

The selection of the grand jury which indicted Black Panthers Landon Williams and Rory Hithe was challenged Wednesday as being "fatally defective."

Williams and Hithe are the last of fourteen Panthers implicated in Alex Rackley's death in May, 1969.

Special Public Defender Hugh Keefe challenged the process of selection - requiring only that jurors be registered voters - as "unconstitutionally vague" and "open to abuses." Keefe is also attacking the sufficiency of evidence used to indict the Panthers--evidence in Grand Jury notes which have mysteriously disappeared.

If the challenge is successful, the two most serious charges against Hithe and Williams will be dropped.

Friends

New Haven County High Sheriff J. Edward Slavin testified last week that he and his deputies chose the 21 Grand Jurors from their friends and acquaintances. Most members had been active in local Democratic politics for as much as ten years.

After questioning 20 of the 21 jurors who sat on the grand jury panel, Keefe charged that the group was "unduly old", represented the upper middle class" economically, and contained "nobody even close" to the peer group of his clients.

Senior Citizens

Mrs. Beatrice Saxon, one of three blacks on the 20-member panel, testified that she had been serving on grand juries for 20 years, and had served on maybe 20. A sprightly 91 year old, Mrs. Saxon is the assistant secretary of the New Haven Town Committee, a loyal Democrat who "went in when (Town Chairman Arthur) Barbieri went in."

Although Sheriff Slavin testified September 15 that Mrs. Saxon had suggested the other two black women to make his jury panel "representative", Mrs. Saxon denied that she had suggested the names of friends for the jury.

Neighbors

A second black juror testified that she lived three doors away from Mrs. Saxon. Like Mrs. Saxon, she was no stranger to jury duty.

And Political Cronies

The third juror questioned Wednesday, Thomas Nellij, 56, testified that he knew Sheriff Slavin personally, as a friend and "through political connections." Mr. Nellij stated that he had served as the mayor of Ansonia for four years, and had known Sheriff Slavin for 25 years. In the last eight years he said he served on about eight grand juries.

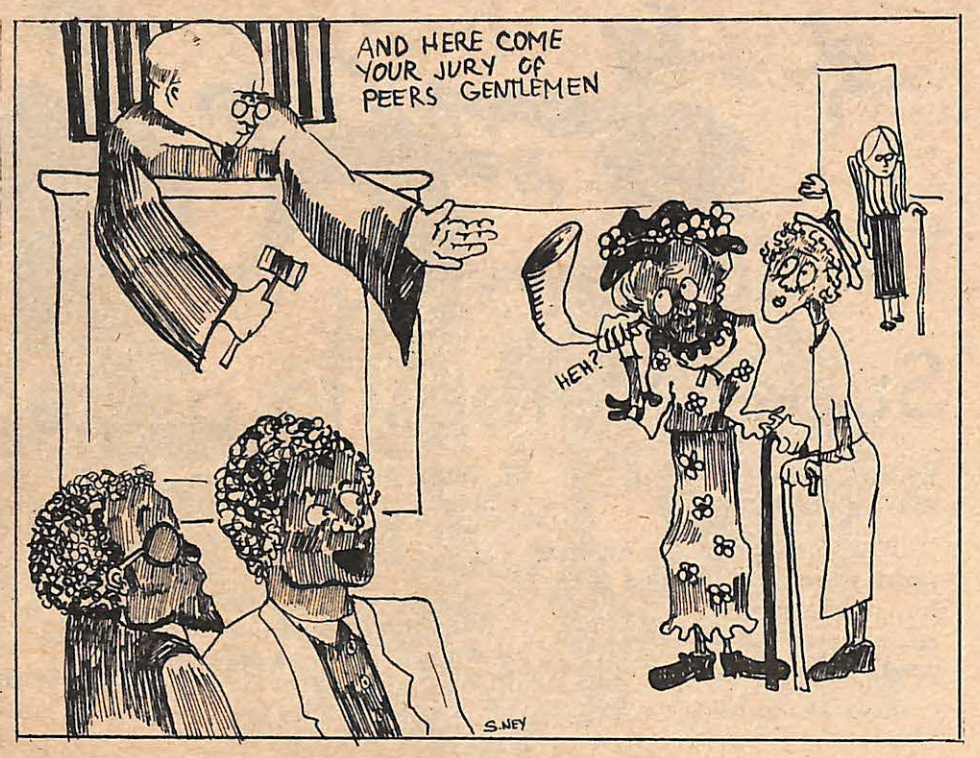
Hithe and Williams have been indicted for aiding and abetting a kidnaping and a murder. Both charges carry a possible death penalty.

Keefe hopes to file a second challenge on the ground that the grand jury had insufficient evidence on which to indict the defendants.

Missing Notes

The defense's effort to bring the challenge is hampered by the unavailability of a critical piece of evidence the grand jury proceedings. Attorney Catherine Roraback testified that a xerox copy of the proceedings, which was inside the State's file of George Sams, is missing. Roraback stated that she made a verbatim copy of these notes, but that the official copy has disappeared.

Roraback's written notes indicate that the only evidence placed before the grand jury alleged that one defendant had tied the victim's hands and both had remained as guards. According to the attorneys this is not sufficient evidence to indict on capital charges.



Furthermore the disappearance of the notes may indicate that the state has something to hide.

Lesser Charges

Even if the challenge to the grand jury selection is won, Williams and Hithe would still face two lesser charges brought by the state's attorney's office--conspiracy, with a maximum sentence of 15 years, years, and binding, for which they could serve 25 years.

Williams and Hithe also face charges of aggravated assault on prison guards. The charges stem from an incident in which Hithe and Williams refused to attend a disciplinary hearing at the Litchfield Correctional Center, where they were jailed.

Took Twelve of Finest

Eight guards and about four state troopers forced their attendance, but no hearing was ever held. Sources close to the defense believe the prison was trying to find an excuse to isolate the defendants.

Hithe is now in Litchfield Correctional Center and Williams in the "Bobby Seale Memorial Suite" at the Montville Correctional Center.

Seale Indictment Challenged

The missing grand jury notes also led to renewed speculation concerning the case of Bobby Seale, who was freed in June when charges were dropped.

According to Roraback's notes the last three entries read as follows:

12. Landon Williams: tied victim--hands/ remained as guard

13. Rory B. Hithe remained as guard.

14.

Sources close to the defense think that "14" might have been reserved for Bobby Seale. Thirteen of the 14 were indicted by the grand jury questioned by Keefe, but a later grand jury was convened to indict Seale. Sources close to the defense think that the first grand jury may have decided they did not have enough evidence to indict Seale, and a second grand jury was convened because of political pressure.

Petitioners Demand Angela's Rights Be Recognized

Activities around the campaign to free imprisoned black Communist Angela Davis are mounting in the New Haven area. During the State Labor Convention the Connecticut Unionists for the Freedom of Angela Davis launched a petition campaign initiated by 34 local unionists.

For the past two months the New Haven Committee to Free Angela Davis has been distributing information about the case and collecting signatures on a national petition.

NEW HAVEN COMMITTEE

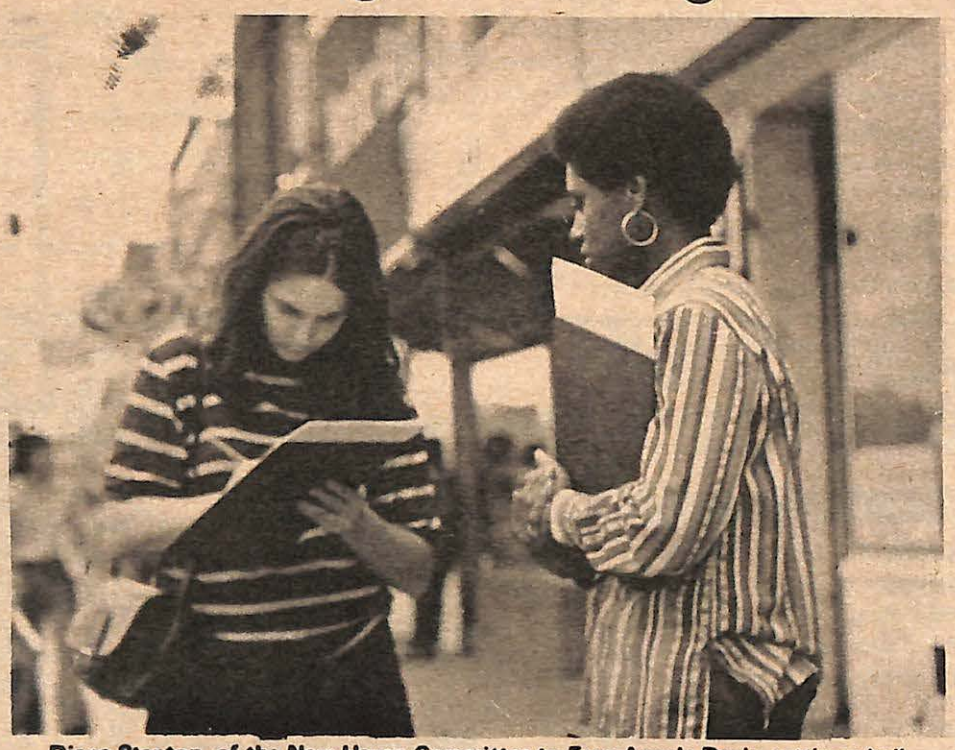
by Ron Benson

For months we have been getting petitions signed for the Angela Davis bail campaign. We have been going to community social gatherings, shopping centers, schools and factory gates.

Over 3000 people from all backgrounds have signed, demanding that bail be set for Prof. Davis so that she doesn't have to stay in jail pending her trial. October 13 marks a full year that she has been detained by the state.

Now that schools are open we've started petitioning South Central Community College. The Organization of African Students (OAS) has set up an information table in the student lobby at Southern Connecticut State College.

The responses we get while petitioning vary. Some people are not familiar with the case. Some are against her political beliefs. Others think she should be considered as an exceptional case and not be released. But many people understand that Angela Davis' constitutional rights are being denied and think she should be granted bail.



Diane Stanton, of the New Haven Committee to Free Angela Davis, getting a bail petition signature from passerby on Broadway. (M-T photo by Suzy Duling).

We've been passing out leaflets at various shop gates. So far we've been to Sargents, Winchesters and Seamless Rubber Company. The workers there have been getting together at lunch break and reading and discussing the literature.

CONNECTICUT UNIONISTS

A special petition drive among union members asking for release on bail of Angela Davis began September 15. Roosevelt Ward and Bill Morico, coordinators of Connecticut Unionists for the Freedom of Angela Davis, announced that the petition will be circulated at factories and union meetings throughout the state.

The petition states in part, "Angela Davis is a member of an American Federation of Teachers local at the University of California in Los Angeles. She was overwhelmingly supported by her local in her fight to keep her job when the anti-union Reagan government tried to fire her. The A.F.T. recently called for bail for Angela Davis at their National Convention.

"She was refused bail by Judge Richard Arnason even after the probation office of California recommended her release. She meets all criteria for bail.

"As fellow union members we can only conclude that Angela Davis is being denied bail because she is an outspoken defender of the rights of labor, political prisoners, all oppressed and exploited people and is a Black woman and member of the Communist Party. It is illegal and unconstitutional to deny bail on these grounds. Therefore we demand immediate release of Angela Davis on reasonable bail."

The petition was initiated by 34 Connecticut trade unionists:

William Ard, I.B.T. Local 105 1040
Awilda Ayala, Hospital Workers Local 1199
Dorothy Billington, Ht'f. Fed. of Teachers
Jerome P. Brown, Hosp. Workers Local 1199
Edward Campbell, UAW Local 1012
Timothy Craine, N. H. Fed. of Teachers L.933
Perry Daniels, H.R.F. Local 59
Joan Fairmont, Ht'f Concerned Trade Union.
Frank Fazekas, U.F., retired
Aubrey Grant, UAW Local 1012
George Harris, UAW Local 626
Mary Johnson, N.H. Fed. of Teachers L.933
Harry Kaplan, U.F., Field Organizer
Saul Kreas, Painters Local 186
Maria Lopez, Hospital Workers Local 1199
Raymond Milici, Concerned Hosp. Workers
Merrily Milstein, IIRF Local 59
Bill Morico, N. H. Concerned Trade Unionists
Alex Moroz, IBEW Local 1013
Andrew Newhoff, UAW, retired
Craig O'Connell, N.H. Fed. of Teachers L.933
Henry Owens (Sikorsky)
Carmen Rodriguez, Hosp. Workers Loc. 1199
Seymour Ronner, UAW Local 676
Jack Staley, UAW Local 379
Brian Steinberg, AF of M Local 400
Eileen Toles, Concerned Hospital Workers
Roosevelt Ward, Hosp. Work. L. 1199, Org.
Irmgard Wessel, AFSCME Local 1939
Ernestine White, Hosp. Workers Local 1199
Clarence Williams, IUE Local 203
Peter Wolff, SEIU Local 629

TV Review

Super Heroes to a Degenerate World

by Pat Lowendorf
Modern Times Staff

What fantasies lurk in American minds these days? To find out, turn on the crystal box, your TV set, and peep into the minds and hearts of our fellow men and women.

Unlike TV commercials, which provide a whole range of escapism to choose from (which may account for some of their popularity over TV shows), the TV show offers only two main themes: one theme deals with violence and one deals with sex (not, however, mutually exclusive).

70% Crime

Out of 28 prime-time viewing hours this season, 19½ are devoted to crime shows. America day dreams that "others" are murderous, treacherous, thieving, raping, sick, power-hungry, evil, and conscience-less; while we suppose ourselves to be shrewd (as opposed to wise), tough, cynical, emotional-less, know-it-all, defenders of the faithless (i.e. Victim: "Who'd want to kill me?" Police: "It couldn't be Willy. He's in stir." Cohort: "Forget it. It'll never work." No one has faith in the hero's instincts.).

Yet America is unswerving in its belief that it is **right**, and will go to unpredictable and astounding lengths to prove it. America has great ingenuity and know-how, and paradoxically, a touch of naivete.

Did you think you had heard the ultimate of the no-nonsense, masculine name when you met Gannon of MEDICAL CENTER? Well, meet Cannon of CANNON. When I first saw middle-aged, slightly conservative, downright fat Cannon as the ex-cop, now private dick, I said to myself, "Oh, goody. No more endless bloody fisticuffs to watch at the climax of every show! This man is in no condition to do that. I guess that means less violence."

Little did I know how inventive the American psyche could be! On show no. 1, we saw: a rigged roof that falls on and buries a man; Cannon bleeding over a 20 minute time span; a man literally squeezed to death in the arms of another man, AND (rarely seen on TV or movies) a child threatened with torture and death. On show no. 2 we open with a woman getting run down by a car, a man pushed out the window, a man being approached with a blowtorch while pinned under a grate, etc. Please, God, let's go back to the wholesomeness of the stomach jab and knuckled chin!

Jane's Father?

THE SMITH FAMILY starring Henry Fonda is more subtle in its violence. Criminal: "Are you refusing me medical treatment?" Police captain: "I wish I could!"

The irritating thing about this show (besides the fact that Sgt. Smith's wife looks like Pat Nixon), is the stereotyping. Every crook has long hair. All the family's problems arise out of father's job; no confrontation with real issues: Son Bob: "Those hippies who bought the house down the street shouldn't be run out of the neighborhood, Dad." Dad: "Could be." Two other Dad standbys are: "Maybe not," and "I guess."

A Good Joe

This season we have cops, ex-cops, private dicks, (fat, blind and crippled-could it be America senses she is wounded wounded?), Treasury Men, F.B.I., and a few run-of-the-mill worldly trouble-shooters. Holding his own another season is MANNIX, a private detective with a pretty, black secretary. Miraculously, Peggy is not super-sexy, or super-smart. Just plain Peggy, and consequently somewhat real, therefore interesting. Joe Mannix, himself, has two very refreshing traits: he is compassionate; and he makes mistakes. The plots are good, and sometimes even take surprising turns. He does not possess the "Heigh-ho Silver, Awaaaaaay" syndrome that is the stock-in-trade of shows like this. No speedoffs in fast cars, no slammed front doors! I guess the show's writers do not feel that Mannix needs to run away from what he's done. Up to now, there has been very little direct violence emanating from Joe. To my disgust, last week, he actually shot somebody, so his uniqueness may be short-lived. He is not thronged with women, and when one does appear romantically inclined, more often than not, it is Joe who succumbs.

Question

The interesting question is why are *Americans so pre-occupied with crime and violence? A more interesting question:* ***Are*** Americans pre-occupied with crime and violence: that is, do the men who make up the programming truly represent the desires and interests of the majority of the population, or are we victims of the psyches of certain influential people who hold the power? Any ideas? Send them in.

(to be continued)

Angus Gordon, Modern Mentor

by Tony Dominski
Environmental Offensive

Last Friday night I entered a bar in Fair Haven and encountered Angus Gordon, president of United Illuminating. Angus was sitting with his attorney from Wiggen and Dana and was softly sobbing in his beer. Occasionally he would look up and cast a wistful glance at the English generating station.

I was startled to see a utility executive crying and asked him why he was feeling so sad.

"Nobody wants me. We cannot sell our stock and I cannot speak at any of the neighboring colleges without looking like the bad guy."

I inquired about the case of the overhead transmission lines which were to go past Quinnipiac Park.

"The public," Angus said, "just does not appreciate the landscaping potential of our new transmission towers." Eyes shining, he pointed in the direction of the harbor. "Just imagine a row of slate gray 'sentinel' poles blending in with the natural lines of the harbor. You can get some idea of the possibilities by looking at our environmental exhibit at the Yale Art Gallery. We have scale models of the towers and lines exhibited next to a working model of the city incinerator."

Outside the bar the air was getting thicker and thicker. A half an inch of ash had fallen while we were talking.

Helping the Poor

"Angus," I said, "does your proposed 11% plus rate hike mean that your company has abandoned its goal of cheap power for the ghetto?"

"No," he replied. "We always charged small users in the ghetto our highest rates so they would not use too much electricity and therefore save money. Now we are raising their rates again to stimulate a greater saving."

Angus coughed and his attorney from Wiggen and Dana clapped him on the back.

"The rate hikes," Angus continued, "are necessitated by the cost of the ecology debate. We have to do more advertising, because if the public is not informed in the right way there will be nothing ahead but chaos. Of course a portion of the hike will go to capital expansion and a portion to positive steps to improve the environment. For example we will continue the maintenance of the TV monitoring system at the English Street Plant so the engineers can watch our emmissions."

"What," I asked, "is the single biggest obstacle in UI's battle on the environmental question?"

"That's easy. The hard core radical liberal environmentalists are using fear and fright tactics and trying to deceive the public. Those are the people who are trying to pull the plug out on America."

"Angus," I said, "don't worry. Your contributions to New Haven's environment will not be forgotten."

EVENTS AT SOUTH CENTRAL

The following events have been planned by the student activities office at South Central Community College in Wilbur Cross High School. All events begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Wilbur Cross auditorium. The community is invited to attend all events.

Wednesday, October 6
movie. Marx Bros., "Duck Soup" .25

Wednesday, October 13
folk singer. Roy Bookbinder free

Wednesday, Otcober 20
rock concert. "Charis Ma" free

Wednesday, November 3
movie. Paul Newman, "Hombre" .25

Monday, November 22
movie. Vincent Price, "The House of Wax" .25

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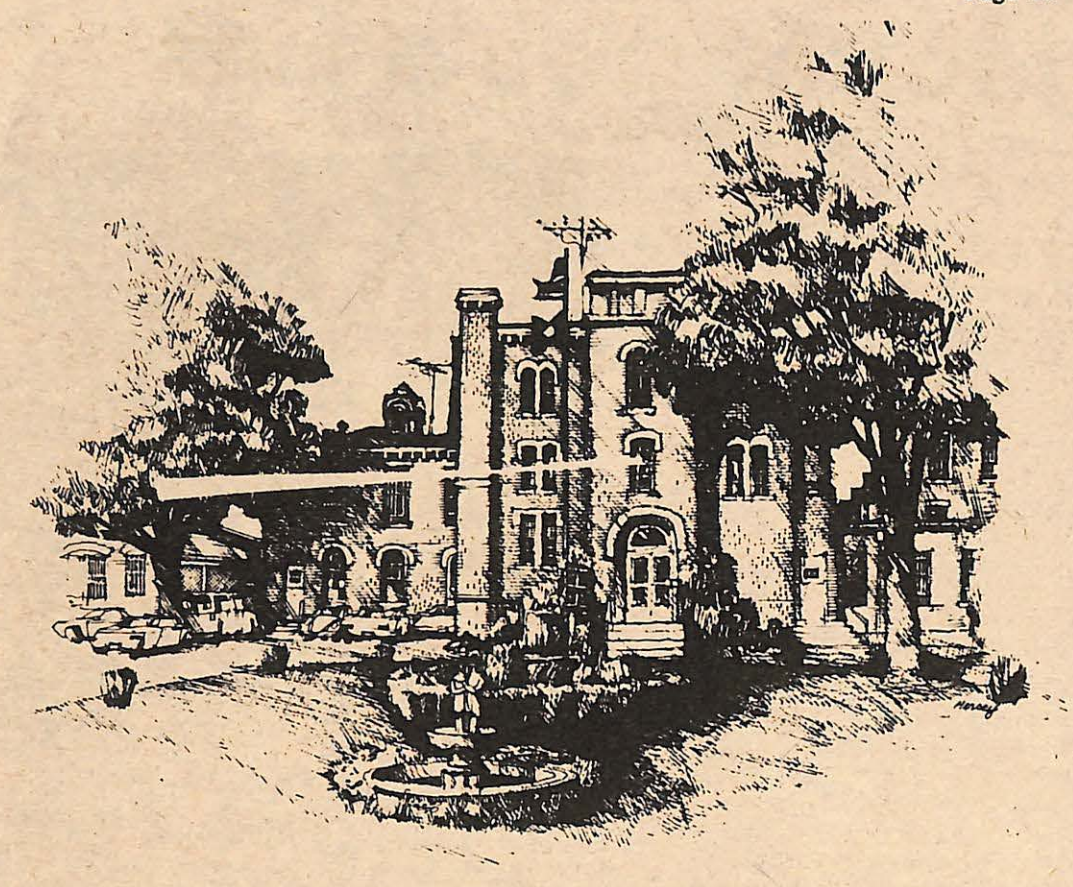

Recent events in this country's "correctional institutions" remind us that there is one right here in New Haven, up on Whalley Avenue. Rockefeller and his ilk are saying that repression in the prisons is necessary to protect the "larger society" outside, as if the 42 killed at Attica were other than human beings. Here is a picture of the Whalley Avenue jail, and then a picture of the "larger society" directly across the street from it. Which is all by way of saying that it *sure is getting hard to tell on which side of the bars we are these days.*

by Bill Hersey

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The Associates of the Willoughby Wallace Library in Stony Creek present Ruth Myers' recent acrylics. The exhibit will run from Sept. 19-Oct. 2, with an opening reception from 3-5 on Sunday, Sept. 19.

For Sale: Miscellany and memorabilia: spiral stair, victorian furniture, bed frame, old tools, gas furnace, tires and other items. Call 562-0657.

TEACHERS NEEDED

The Free School of New Haven needs volunteer teachers. Please write to:

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Box 404A
Yale Station
New Haven

or telephone 436-1480.

Where to Buy Modern Times

Hill: Beirne's, Howard-Columbus; Wil-Mor's, Congress-Hallock; Len-Mac Cleaners, Howard-Sylvan; Martinez Grocery, Washington-West.

Fair Haven: Wil-Mor's, Grand-James; Marie's, Grand-Lloyd; Fair Haven Parents Ministry, Grand-James, Sal's Sandwich Shop, 188 Grand; Lenny's Market, St. Johns-Chestnut; Pequot Drug, Grand-East Pearl.

Downtown: Red's Newstand, Elm-State; Hotel Taft Newstand, College Street; News Depot, Orange-George; Band Box, Chapel near College; Whitlock's Broadway; Morton's Broadway; Angela Davis Bookstore, Broadway.

Hamden: Cherry Hill Pharmacy, 1830 Dixwell; Soybel Pharmacy, Dixwell-Wooding.

West Haven: Silver's, Campbell-Main; Liggett's, Campbell-Center; Rivoli Luncheonette, Campbell-Center.

Newhallville: Joe & Jessie's No. 1, Shelton-Bassett; Davis-Waller, Goodrich-Newhall; Visel Drugs, Dixwell-Bassett; Bob's Market, Dixwell-Division.

State-Orange: Standard Food Market, 852 State; Orange-Grove Pharmacy; Whitney Pharmacy, near Edwards; Orange Market., 500 Orange.

Dixwell: Davis-Waller, Dixwell Plaza; Sunrise Luncheonette, Dixwell Plaza; Lake Variety, Dixwell-Lake Pl.; Windsor Drugs, Winchester-Webster; FH Discount, 138 Goffe St.

Westville: Beaver Hill Pharmacy, Fitch-Blake; Westville Pharmacy, Fountain-Central; Coyne Stationery, Amity Center; Lurie's Pharmacy, Whalley-Dayton.

Dwight: Nu-Way Market, Howe-Chapel; Howe Food Shop, cor. Edgewood; Group W, Dwight-Edgewood; Volpe's Pharmacy, Chapel-Beers; Gilbert Pharmacy, cor. Greenwood; Esquire Restaurant, Chapel-Orchard; The Book Shop, Chapel-Howe.

Mid-town: Book World, Chapel-York; Superbooks, Chapel-York; Downstairs Gallery, York near Chapel; Thomas' Market, Norton-George; Audio Showcase, Whalley-Winthrop; LaBella's Luncheonette, 433 Chapel; Our Food Store, Whalley-Winthrop; Gary's New York Deli, 1207 Chapel; Ray's Coffee Shop, York-Chapel; Omnibus, Park near Crown.

Mayor Lee's Lies Laid Bare

by Philip St. Georges
Modern Times Staff

A recently completed research study of New Haven's urban renewal program provides new evidence that outright lies may have been used to gain political support. On the issue of the "total relocation of all former residents" of New Haven's first project, Oak St., new facts indicate that former Mayor Richard C. Lee may have purposely deceived the public to maintain continuity in the urban renewal program.

What theCity Claimed

The City of New Haven in every official public document and statement talks about the total relocation of the former Oak St. residents. The director of family relocation in New Haven from 1956 to 1966, Alvin A. Mermin, wrote a book called *Relocating Families: The New Haven Experience 1956 - 1966*, which can be considered the official statement of what happened in that first project. Yet Mermin treats the Oak St. project very briefly and often simply states that all 886 families or nearly 3000 persons were "relocated." Mermin later told me that the figure of 3000 persons "relocated" had been made up by multiplying the number of families on Oak St. (886) times the average number of persons per family (4) !! On that basis I decided to see for myself, by attempting to contact the former Oak St. residents themselves.

What I Found

To find the only true story of Oak St., I went to the city directory of 1956 which provided me with the names of 660 former Oak St. residents. Fifteen *years later I was able to reach 66 of them (or 10%) directly. Their story of what happened may surprise some city officials.*

Of those 66 former residents, 37 of them (or 56%) said that they had not received any assistance in locating another home from the family relocation office (as guaranteed by law), while 36 (or 56%) reported that they had not received any form of moving cost assistance (as guaranteed by law)! Only 16 former residents (or 24%) said that they had received relocation assistance, while 14 (or 21%) acknowledged receipt of moving costs aid. Somewhere, the city of New Haven lost track of some people.

"It's all for parking. Tore all them buildings down for parking, no good. That's all they do, tear down, they don't build nothing."
Mrs. Luella W. formerly of 273 Congress Ave.

Obviously, the most important question is why the City of New Haven and *its officials took such pains to cover up a portion (albeit a small portion) of the truth from the citizens of the city who* were the supposed beneficiaries of the urban renewal program.

The fact that much of Oak Street's physical structure was badly dilapidated and deteriorating cannot be disputed. City officials tend to talk in terms of the slum-like nature of the area, to the exclusion of any positive aspect of the neighborhood. But many of the old residents agreed with the city's decision to destroy the area. Furthermore, it seems that the voters agreed with the city's urban renewal policy, for they voted its champion, Richard C. Lee, to eight successive terms as mayor of the city.

Yet despite broad public support for the program, demonstrated in the consecutive landslide victories that Lee posted every November, the city officials who ran the urban renewal projects chose to hide the fact that a small disaster had occurred for a significant number of lower class citizens living on and around Oak St., from the public who provided the mandate for their programs. Why?

Why Facts

In 1955 the city had entered a self-declared war on its slums and declining downtown. Essential to the success of the program was the feeder-road system which would enable and encourage suburban traffic to use a revitalized downtown quickly and conveniently. In this manner, new tax dollars were to be generated, a slum eliminated and the central business district would become attractive once more. And the key to the success of the entire redevelopment program was the Oak Street Connector. It *had* to succeed to insure the free flow of traffic into and out of the new downtown area and to illustrate the feasibility of urban renewal as a workable program. As the first redevelopment project area in a new federal program, the demolition of Oak Street for a highway and a new downtown *had to work* if Mayor Lee and other city politicians were to reap the political jackpot which awaited them. New Haven residents had clearly taken a risk, in hoping to trust a new program which promised a model city and the Mayor who stood behind it. If the program had faltered early, if problems had developed of any serious nature, the electorate most certainly would have disavowed the innovative ideas as reckless and destructive, and proceeded to elect a less daring, more conservative mayor.

In 1955, this was a political reality which Lee had to face. Therefore it seems apparent that confronted with the knowledge that the relocation of Oak Street was not going well, and that in fact it was a fiasco, Lee had to make a decision either to abandon the program by admitting that a major problem had developed, *delay the program while relocation* housing could be built (a delay which inevitably would have cost him the mayoralty because of time wasted), or cover up the fact that problems had arisen and instead publicize the successful relocation of all residents. He chose the latter, and the people of New Haven were deceived into believing it.

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Spanish Alliance Opens Community Health Clinic

Free health care in Fair Haven. SEE STORY PAGE 4.